U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney Eastern District of Wisconsin

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NEWS SUMMARY:

Steven M. Biskupic, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin , announced today that the federal grand jury in Milwaukee has returned a two-count indictment charging two individuals with harboring an alien for the purpose of private financial gain.

Jefferson N. Calimlim and Elnora M. Calimlim of Brookfield, Wisconsin were charged in a criminal complaint. The charging document alleges that from 1985 through September 29, 2004, the defendants employed a female Filipino national as a domestic worker who was responsible for the caring of the Calimlim children, cleaning the house, and preparing the family meals. The Filipino woman lived at the Calimlim residence and was promised a salary that would be "kept in an account". She was working to send money home to her family in the Philippines. However, she did not have access to the account or know its whereabouts. It is alleged that the Calimlims did not allow the Filipino woman to leave their residence without supervision and convinced her to submit to these conditions by warning her of possible arrest and deportation due to her status as an illegal alien.

"To hold a domestic servant in virtual servitude for twenty years is a shocking callous disregard for our nation's most deeply held values," said Brian Falvey, Resident Agent-in-Charge for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Milwaukee. "As the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, ICE brings to bear all its authorities, expertise, and resources to fight against those who harbor, smuggle or traffic illegal aliens across our borders."

Conviction of these charges carries a maximum punishment of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

This case was investigated by agents from the and the U.S. Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tracy M. Johnson.

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government established his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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